

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

**NAVY SEALS 1-26, et al.,**

Plaintiffs,

v.

**JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.**, in his official capacity as President of the United States, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 4:21-cv-01236-O

**PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Before the Court are Plaintiffs' Motion for Protective Order (the "Motion") (ECF No. 26), filed December 1, 2021, and Defendants' Response (ECF No. 30), filed December 2, 2021. The Plaintiffs represented to the Court that Defendants opposed the Motion. *See* Certificate of Conference 7, ECF No. 26. However, Defendants claim that they agreed to a protective order as long as their counsel could receive the names of all 35 SEALs and Special Warfare Plaintiffs. Defs.' Resp. 1, ECF No. 30. Defendants allege that they will need until December 16, 2021 to investigate and decide whether to oppose Plaintiffs' Motion. *Id.* at 3.

Plaintiffs concede that they "do not object to disclosing their identit[ies] to the Court, and to Defendants' counsel, to allow them to investigate the claims, prepare a defense, and to propound discovery, if necessary, provided that such disclosure is subject to adequate protection to prevent disclosure of Plaintiffs' identities." Mot. 1–2, ECF No. 26.

Because the parties appear to agree regarding disclosure to Defendants' counsel, the Court hereby **ORDERS** that Plaintiff will forthwith provide Defense counsel the identities and addresses of the Pseudonym Plaintiffs along with any documents that have been filed under seal in this matter

to undersigned defense counsel of record. The parties are directed to meet and confer to provide the Court a proposed protective order governing the use of this information by Defendants.<sup>1</sup>

IT SO ORDERED, this 2nd day of December, 2021.



Reed O'Connor  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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<sup>1</sup> Defendants also seek an extension of time to December 16, 2021, to respond to Plaintiffs' Motion for Protective Order. Instead of an extension, Defendants can move to reconsider this Order if and when they determine additional relief is necessary.